

Introduced by Senator Negrete McLeod
(Coauthor: Senator Huff)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Torres)

March 1, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83—Relative to the Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 83, as introduced, Negrete McLeod. Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified section of State Highway Route 60 in Chino as the Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway. The measure would also request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr., a 12-year veteran
- 2 of the Chino Police Department, died in the line of duty on
- 3 February 1, 2000; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was born on December 27, 1948;
- 5 and
- 6 WHEREAS, Upon graduating from Magnolia High School in
- 7 Anaheim, California, in 1967, Officer Miller joined the United
- 8 States Navy, where he served six years at the height of the Vietnam
- 9 War; and

1 WHEREAS, After leaving the Navy, Officer Miller held a series
2 of jobs working as a welder, truck driver, and construction worker,
3 and later applied to become a police officer; and

4 WHEREAS, After completing training, Officer Miller graduated
5 from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Academy on February
6 5, 1988, and joined the Chino Police Department, later acting in
7 the capacity as a field training officer and part of the department's
8 mounted enforcement team; and

9 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was known as an officer who was
10 well-liked and respected, and a stabilizing force in his patrol unit;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In subsequent years, Officer Miller also became
13 involved in family and community activities after his three children
14 were born; and

15 WHEREAS, Officer Miller coached Little League and assisted
16 the United States Naval Sea Cadets Corps that his son, Russell Jr.,
17 belonged to; and

18 WHEREAS, Officer Miller and his wife had also recently
19 purchased 20 acres of land in Montana and were looking forward
20 to retirement; and

21 WHEREAS, However, on February 1, 2000, Officer Miller was
22 involved in a routine traffic stop, and, while approaching the
23 stopped vehicle, was struck from behind by a second vehicle,
24 whose driver was under the influence of alcohol; and

25 WHEREAS, Tragically, Officer Miller was critically injured,
26 and was transported to a nearby trauma center where he died while
27 undergoing surgery; and

28 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was laid to rest on February 7, 2000;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Law enforcement personnel came from throughout
31 California, and as far away as Idaho and Utah, to attend Officer
32 Miller's funeral service at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
33 in Chino Hills, California; and

34 WHEREAS, The ceremony was punctuated by both tears and
35 laughter as Officer Miller's colleagues recalled the man they knew,
36 recounting his immense love for his family, and his skill as a police
37 officer; and

38 WHEREAS, At the end of the funeral service, one of Officer
39 Miller's daughters, Melissa, released a white dove in a symbolic
40 release of her father; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Miller is survived by his wife Stephanie,
2 his daughters Melissa and Sarah, his son Russell Jr., and his
3 parents, sisters, and brother; and

4 WHEREAS, Officer Miller's memory lives on through an annual
5 memorial 5K "Run for Russ" race, established in 2001 in Chino,
6 California, an event that brings the community together to celebrate
7 Officer Miller's life and that forges stronger neighborhood bonds;
8 and

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California
11 hereby recognizes the contributions made by Officer Russell M.
12 Miller, Sr. of the Chino Police Department to the people of the
13 State of California and hereby designates the section of State
14 Highway Route 60 between Mountain Avenue and Ramona Avenue
15 in Chino as the Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway;
16 and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
18 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
19 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing that
20 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
21 sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
23 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
24 author for appropriate distribution.